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February 7, 2006

Mary L. Cottrell, Secretary
Department of Telecommunications and Energy
One South Station, 2nd Floor
Boston, MA 02110

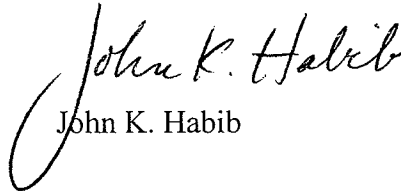
Re: Arrearage Management Programs, D.T.E. 05-86

Dear Ms. Cottrell:

On behalf of Boston Edison Company, Cambridge Electric Light Company and Commonwealth Electric Company d/b/a NSTAR Electric and NSTAR Gas Company (together, "NSTAR"), please find attached NSTAR's response to the Department's First Set of Information Requests in this proceeding.

Please contact me or Kerry Britland if you have any questions regarding the filing. Thank you for your consideration.

Very truly yours,



John K. Habib

Enclosure

cc: Elizabeth Cellucci
Service List, D.T.E. 05-86

Information Request DTE-1-1

Please provide a monthly bill impact for each rate class that will be impacted by your proposed Arrearage Management Program filed in DTE 05-86. The bill impacts shall show the projected impact on customers bills of implementing your proposed Arrearage Management Program during the first, second, and third year that the program will be in effect. Supply any and all assumptions and calculations that were relied upon to develop and support these bill impacts.

Response

As referenced in Section V of Exhibit NSTAR-23 (Settlement), which was approved by the Department in NSTAR Electric/NSTAR Gas, D.T.E. 05-85, NSTAR has agreed to develop the details of its Arrearage Forgiveness Program ("AFP") evaluation mechanism with the Low-Income Energy Affordability Network ("LEAN"), including details addressing the method by which NSTAR Electric Company and NSTAR Gas Company (together, the "Company") will determine the costs and benefits of the AFP. The Company is currently discussing these issues with LEAN. Accordingly, the Company cannot at this time determine with any level of reliability the projected bill impacts of the AFP. To the extent that the Company and LEAN finalize an agreement on AFP evaluation issues that include a cost/benefit analysis prior to the Department's pending February 28, 2006 order in this proceeding, the Company will submit bill impact analyses to the Department consistent with such an agreement.